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X-MEN

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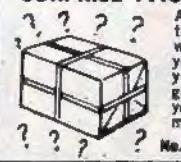
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X-MEN! THE MOST UNUSUAL FIGHTING TEAM OF ALL TIME!

"WHEN TITANS CLASH!"

SO THIS IS WHAT YOU MUTANT MIS-FITS DO WHEN YOU'RE NOT BATTIN' OTHER FREAKS... YA GOOF OFF ICE-SKATIN'!!

YOUR BLATANT DISPAIR OF OUR MORE PEACEFUL PURSUITS IS DULY NOTED, MR. RANKIN!

STILL, I OBSERVE YOU DIDN'T NEGLECT TO BRING ALONG YOUR OWN SKATES!

WHILE YOU TWO ARE ARGUIN', I'M GONNA CUT THE FIRST FIGURE EIGHT OF THE SEASON!

GANGWAY, CAROL HEISS! THE ICEMAN COMETH!

JEAN, GAL, I'M SURE GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT DOWN FROM COLLEGE THIS WEEKEND!

SO AM I, WARREN... ESPECIALLY NOW THAT YOU'VE FULLY RECOVERED FROM YOUR ACCIDENT!

ANOTHER TOWERING TRIUMPH FOR MAJESTIC MARVEL!!

STAN LEE EDITOR
ROY THOMAS SCRIPER
WERNER ROTH ... ARTIST
JOHN TARTAGLIONE .. INKER
SAM ROSEN LETTERER
IRVING FORBUSH... SKATING INSTRUCTOR

THE TIME: EARLY WINTER!
THE OCCASION: THE MORNING OF THE FIRST SOLID FREEZE OF DECEMBER!
AND, AT A SECLUDED POND NOT FAR FROM PROFESSOR XAVIER'S SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS, SIX SUPER-POWERED TEENAGERS ENJOY A MOMENT OF RELAXATION... LITTLE DREAMING THAT SOON THEY WILL FACE THE MOMENTOUSLY MENACING THREAT OF... THE SUPER-ADAPTOID!

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THEN, AS THE FINAL ECHOES OF THE THUNDERING AVALANCHE FADE AWAY, THE YOUNG MUTANT SURVEYS THE NOW-PEACEFUL SCENE...

THIS WILL SERVE AS A REMINDER TO ME... THAT I MUST NEVER LOSE MY TEMPER, NO MATTER HOW GREAT THE PROVOCATION!

FOR, WHEN I DO, MY MEREST GLANCE-- CAN LEAD TO DISASTER AND DESTRUCTION!



BUT THE ERSTWHILE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE X-MEN IS NOT COMPLETELY CORRECT IN HIS ASSUMPTION... FOR, IF HIS DOOM-DEALING EYES COULD ONLY PEER THRU THE SOIL AND ROCKS OF THAT VERY HILL, SCOTT SUMMERS WOULD BEHOLD A NETWORK OF LONG-FORGOTTEN TUNNELS...

GRU UUHM
WHAT IS THIS SOUND THAT DISTURBS MY SOLITUDE-- MY PLACE OF RETREAT FROM THE MADNESS THAT MEN CALL CIVILIZATION?

ONCE USED BY THE BRITISH TO STORE AMMUNITION DURING AMERICA'S REVOLUTIONARY WAR, THEY ARE NOW THE SECRET LAIR OF ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL CREATURES ON THE FACE OF OUR PLANET-- THE AWESOME SUPER-ADAPTOID...

IF IT IS SOME INTRUDER-- OR SOME AGENT OF A.I.M. WHO SEEKS TO REGAIN CONTROL OF ME-- HE WOULD DO WELL TO BEWARE!

FOR, HAPLESS THE HUMAN WHO CROSSES THE PATH OF ONE WHO COMBINES THE POWERS OF FOUR OF THE MIGHTY AVENGERS!

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a boy
12 or older

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THEN, AS THE COMPUTERIZED PARTS OF HIS ARTIFICIAL BRAIN ARE FULLY ACTIVATED, THE TEN-FOOT ANDROID KNOWS THE STIRRINGS OF THAT WHICH MEN CALL... MEMORY...

I REMEMBER A PURPOSE--FOR WHICH I WAS BUILT MANY MORTAL DAYS AGO! I WAS TO DESTROY CAPTAIN AMERICA... AND I DID!*

AND YET, THERE WAS SOMETHING ELSE I WAS TO DO... SOMETHING ELSE...

*THAT'S WHAT HE THINKS! YOU SAW WHAT REALLY HAPPENED IN SUSPENSE #84! --SMART-ALECK STAN.

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE SINISTER SUPER-ADAPTOID VIEWS FOR THE FIRST TIME THE PHENOMENON OF AN EARTHLY WINTER...

NOW I RECALL... THAT THE GROUP KNOWN AS A.I.M. ENPOWERED ME WITH THE POWER TO EVOLVE OTHERS INTO BEINGS LIKE MYSELF--AND, WITH THEM, TO CONQUER THE WORLD!

THEN, SINCE A.I.M. SEEMS TO EXIST NO LONGER--IT WILL BE THE SUPER-ADAPTOID WHO SHALL RULE OVER A PLANET OF SUCH ANDROIDS!

BUT FIRST, I MUST FIND A TRIAL SUBJECT --FOR, MY POWERS OF TRANSMUTATION ARE NOT YET TESTED!

AND, WHILE THE TOWERING TITAN BEGINS TO FORMULATE A PLAN OF ACTION, THE UNSUSPECTING X-MEN ARE STILL ENJOYING THEIR HOLIDAY ON ICE...

ACCEPT THE INEVITABLE, MY FROSTBITTEN FRIEND! ICE-SKATING IS SIMPLY NOT YOUR FORTE!



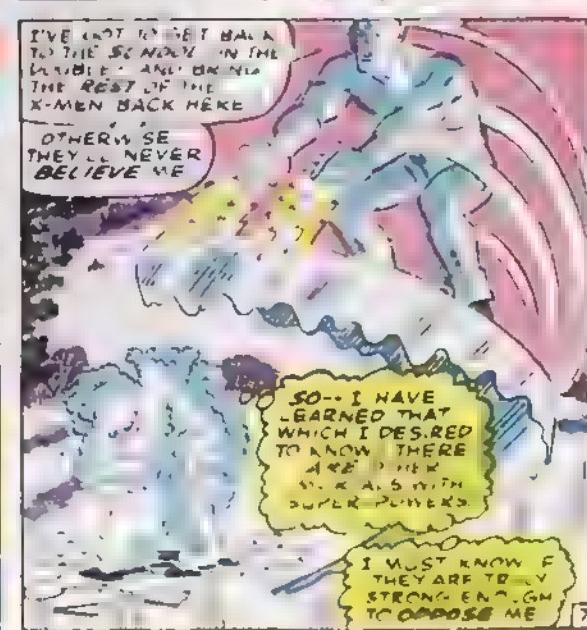
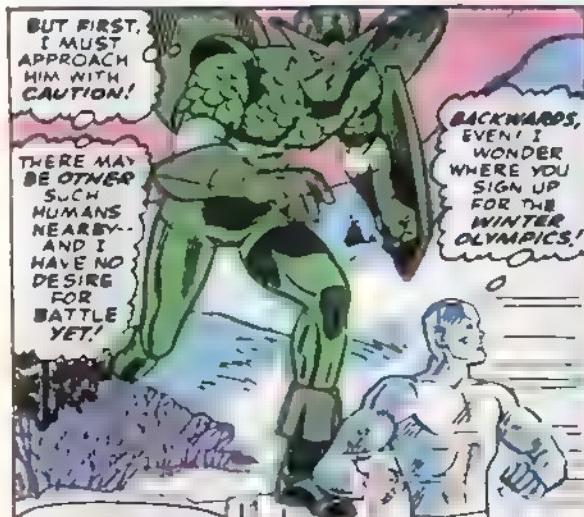
RUSTY? PERSONALLY, I'D DESCRIBE YOUR CONDITION AS THOROUGHLY OXIDIZED!

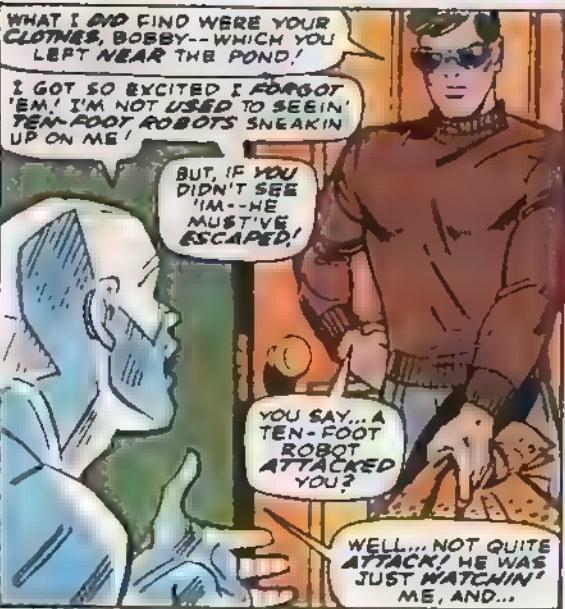
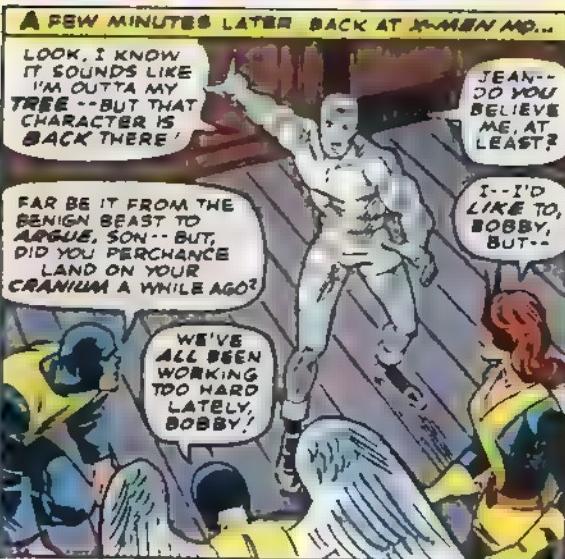
I'M BEGINNIN' TO THINK I SHOULD STRAP THESE SKATES ON MY BACKSIDE!

YIPES! NOT AGAIN!











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County _____ Zip No. _____

A SHORT TIME LATER THE WORLD'S MOST UNKNOWN STUDENTS JOIN THE REGULARLY UNKNOWN INSTRUCTOR ON THE SPACIOUS GROUNDS

THAT'S IT CALVIN
KEEP YOUR BODY
LOSE SO THAT
YOU CAN CHANGE
DIRECTION IN THE
AN INSTANT'S
NOTICE!

HEY BOY THERE
AT THE MIMIC! THAT
NON-MUTANT YOUNG
MAKE A FLYER YET,
MUCH AS I HATE TO
ADMIT IT...

SHAME YOUR
ACCOLADES,
WARREN
HE'S OBVIOUSLY
BEING PREDICED
BY THE
PROFESSOR!

THE OTHER X-MEN
RESENT CALVIN--
BECAUSE THEY
THINK HE'S
INTERESTED IN
NOTHING BUT HIS
OWN MIMICKING
POWERS!

BUT I CAN'T
HELP FEELING
THAT THERE'S
MUCH GOOD
INSIDE THAT
YOUNG MAN!

ATTENTION,
CALVIN!
PREPARE TO
EXECUTE
MANEUVER
2-C...

SORRY,
X-MEN
BUT
THAT'S
ALL THE
FREE
SHOW FOR
TODAY!

NOW WHAT'S
THAT SELF
CENTRED
DUPE OVER
THAT?

SAVE YOUR
CRAH, GIE
CANNA ONLY
STRETCH
LIL' OWN
SOLILOQUIES!

I DON'T
TRANSFER
HERE FROM
METRO
COLLEGE
JUST SO YOU
COULD MAKE
ME JUMP
THRU
HOOPS, XAVIER!

ALL THESE
EXERCISES
MADE A
PURPOSE,
CALLIN'
WHEN WE
COVER
COME NEW
MUTANT
MENACE--

FOR ONCE THAT OVERTURNED MONKEY'S
RIGHT, CHROME DOME I'M UP TO HERE
WITH THIS DO-GOODER BIT

LET THE EVIL MUTANTS TAKE
OVER THE WORLD. WHAT'D
EVER DO FOR ME?

YOU'VE
GONE
TOO FAR,
MIMIC!

LET ME
TAKE
HIM
DOWN
A PEG
SIR

NO, SCOTT! WE GAIN
NOTHING BY FIGHTING
AMONG OURSELVES!

MIND YOUR OWN STICKY BUSINESS! BRIGHT-EYES HERE WANT TO WALTZ AND DINE WITH ME FOR A WHILE. I'LL BE HAD TO OBLIGE!

IT MIGHT DO ME
SOME GOOD TO
REMEMBER JUST WHY
HE ISN'T THE X-MEN'S
DEPUTY LEADER
ANY MORE!

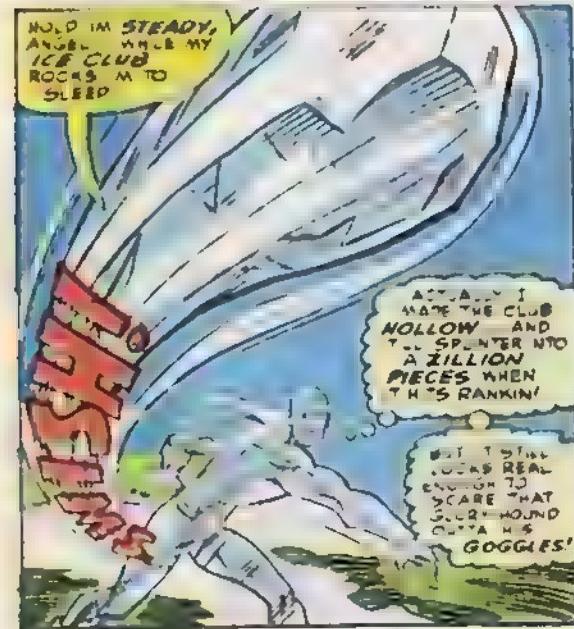
WHY YOU
GRAND-STANDING
IF I DON'T
REMEMBER HOW
YOU HELPED US
AGAINST THE OGRE

DON'T LET AULD LANGE
SYNE HOLD YOU BACK.
SLAMMERED!

BUT, JUST IN CASE
YOU NEED AN EXCUSE,
I'LL GIVE YOU ONE--
A FACEFUL'A SNOW!

POW!

MAMMF'S
ALRIGHT,
RANKIN--
YOU'VE
HAD IT!



SUDDENLY, NOT REALIZING THE HARMLESS NATURE OF BOBBY'S SOLID-LOOKING MASSIVE CYCLOPS ENTERS THE FRAY...

ALL RIGHT, RANKIN! I TRIED TO STAY OUT OF THIS... BUT NOW I'M IN!

LET'S SEE HOW THAT MAKESHIFT BEAM OF YOURS DOES AGAINST THE REAL THING!

MAKESHIFT BEAM? THAT'S WISHFUL THINKING, CLYDE!

MY OPTIC BLASTS ARE AS STRONG AS YOURS ANY DAY OF THE WEEK!

NOW, WHAT SAY WE FORGET THE BUCK ROGERS STUFF AND SLUG IT OUT?

CALVIN! SCOTT! BOTH OF YOU... CEASE FIGHTING AT ONCE!

HUH? WHAT'S WITH THE REFEREE BIT ALL OF A SUDDEN, SKINHEAD?

CALVIN, I'VE OVERLOOKED YOUR INSOLENCE TOWARDS ME... AND YOUR CONSTANT BICKERING WITH THE OTHER X-MEN... BECAUSE I THOUGHT YOU WOULD CHANGE IN TIME!

BUT NOW, I'M BEGINNING TO SUSPECT I WAS WRONG... THAT YOUR OVERWHELMING EGO IS MORE THAN THE X-MEN CAN AFFORD!

I THINK IT BEST THAT YOU LEAVE THE SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! WE'LL FIGHT FACTOR THREE WITHOUT YOU!

FACTOR THREE? I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN ABOUT THAT SECRET EUROPEAN GROUP; NOW THAT THE BANSHEE HAS RETURNED TO HIS HOMELAND! *

YOU HEARD HIS ANSWER? WE MUST COMMENCE OUR STUDY OF FACTOR THREE... WITHOUT THE MIMIC!

PERHAPS, WITH THAT MENACE FACING THE WORLD, RANKIN WILL SHAPE UP!

HOLD YER BREATH WHILE YER WAITIN', BLINKY!

I CAN TAKE A HINT, XAVIER! I'LL BE READY TO LEAVE IN AN HOUR!

* AN ISOTERIC REF TO LAST ISH!... SLY STAN.

WHEN I GO, I'LL LOSE MY SUPER-POWERS... BUT I'LL PAY EM BACK REAL GOOD!

THEN, AS THE BITTER MIMIC STRIDES ANGRILY OFF TO PACK, SCOTT SUMMERS TAKES CAREFUL NOTICE OF PROFESSOR X...

I SPEND HALF MY LIFE WORRYING BECAUSE OF THE DANGER OF MY EYE-BEAMS... BUT THE PROFESSOR HAS TO WORRY ABOUT ALL OF US!

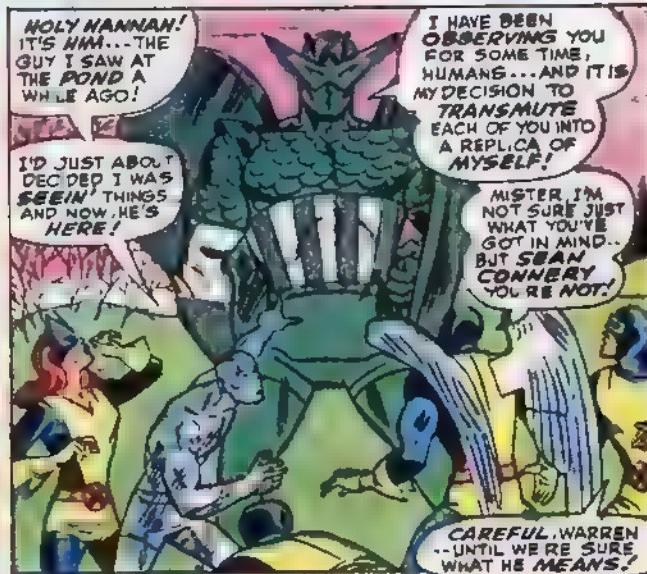
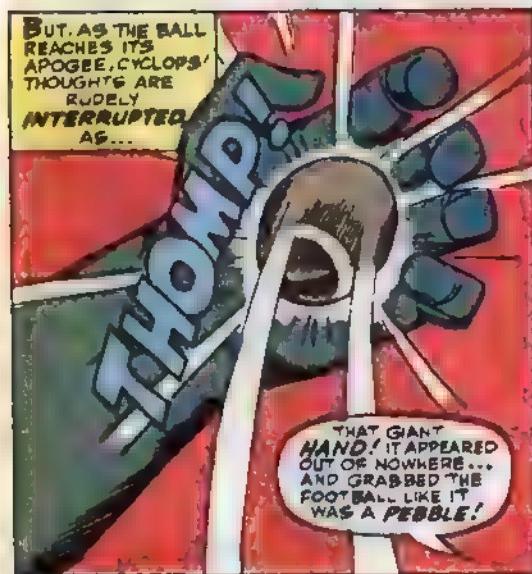
IT HURT HIM TO ADMIT DEFEAT... TO EXPEL CAL RANKIN FROM THE X-MEN! BUT, HE DID IT... BECAUSE HE FELT HE HAD TO!

AND, SOMEHOW, I CAN'T HELP FEELING THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE ON HIS MIND, AS WELL...

AND, INDEED, CYCLOPS' SUSPICIONS WOULD BE CONFIRMED, IF HE COULD OBSERVE HIS MUTANT MENTOR A SHORT TIME AFTERWARD...

I MUST CLOSE MY MIND TO OUTSIDE THOUGHTS FOR THE NEXT HOUR!

FACTOR THREE MUST ENGAGE MOST OF MY CONCERN... BUT, I CANNOT FORGET WHAT LIES BEHIND THAT LOCKED, HEAVY OAKEN DOOR...





CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



NORMAN ROCKWELL—America's most beloved artist. He is a founder and member of the Guiding Faculty of the Famous Artists Schools.

into good artists. Albert Dorne asked, "Why can't we give these people the training they need—including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years?"

He suggested a new kind of art school—a home study art school!—that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live.

The famous artists agreed. Taking time from their busy careers, they created a remarkable series of art lessons covering every aspect of drawing and painting. They illustrated their lessons with over 5,000 "here's how" illustrations. The lessons start from scratch and cover every skill a top artist needs. Finally, they developed a wonderful way to give each student personal correction and advice all through his training.

The famous artists with the School are not surprised at the success of their students. The opportunities open to successful artists today are enormous. The School continually gets calls from all over the country asking for practical well-trained students—not geniuses—who can step into full-time or part-time art jobs. And practical, thorough training is what the School offers.

Famous Artists Talent Test

To find others with art talent worth developing, the Famous Artists created a 12-page talent test. Thousands paid to take this test, but now the School offers and grades it free. Men and women who do well on the test—or offer other evidence of art talent—may enroll in the School. But there's no obligation. Simply mail the coupon below.

became a sought-after illustrator, has opened his own studio.

With Famous Artists training Rosemary Roberts was hired by a top department store as an artist—with a big chance to advance.

Oregon housewife Helen Tryk lives 150 miles from the nearest big city. But she does fashion illustration, has her own studio, runs an art workshop, does portraits.

A Plan to Help Others

It started over 18 years ago when a group of America's most successful artists—men like Albert Dorne, Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb, Al Parker and Stevan Dohanos—met in New York City. They knew that all over America there were people who liked to draw who could be turned

FOUNDING FACULTY OF FAMOUS ARTISTS SCHOOLS

NORMAN ROCKWELL FRED LUDEKENS
JON WHITCOMB BEN STAHL
AL PARKER ROBERT FAWCETT
STEVEN DOHANOS AUSTIN BRIGGS
GEORGE GIUSTI HAROLD VON SCHMIDT
PETER HELCK ALBERT DORNE

- **Famous Artists Schools**
• Studio 5252, Westport, Conn.
• I would like to find out whether I have
• art talent worth developing. Please send
• me, without obligation, your Famous
• Artists Talent Test and information about
• your courses.

- **Mr. / Mrs. / Miss** Circle one and please print
• **Age**
• **Street**
• **City**
• **State** **Zip**

Today hundreds of men and women who never thought they could be artists are working at easels and drawing boards, making pictures and getting well paid for it. They all can thank a group of famous artists who have devoted much of their time and talent to helping others find success in art.

Some of the People the Famous Artists Have Helped

Carl Koch was an 18 year old apprentice in a Chicago art studio when he enrolled. Today he prepares ads for such companies as General Motors and Firestone—has won five gold medals.

Howard Sanden of Minneapolis took the Course while still in high school. He is now a successful artist—last year he and his wife traveled through Europe and the Middle East on important art assignments.

Paul Sullivan enrolled at 14. His Famous Artists training helped him work his way through college.

Stan Bowen, father of three children, was trapped in a dull, low-paying job. By studying with FAS he

THEN BEFORE THEY CAN ACT, THE X-MEN ARE FELLED BY CASCADING FUMES ...

GETTING WEAK...
CAN'T STAND...

THE ARROW CONTAINED A GAS THAT'S ROBBED US OF OUR MUSCULAR CONTROL

MEANWHILE AN EXTREMELY INTERESTED OBSERVER OF THE FOREGOING CLASH IS MAKING SOME RAPID CALCULATIONS...

IT'S A GOOD THING I WAS COMIN BACK TO TELL OFF THOSE MUTANT DO-GOODERS!

THIS ADAPTOID GUY MAY LOOK LIKE A MUNSTERS REJECT... BUT, I'M BETTIN' HE'S GOT POWERS HE HASN'T EVEN USED YET!

CORRECT, MORTAL! FOR, I HAVE NO FURTHER USE FOR YOU.

I CAN CREATE ADAPTODS ONLY FROM WILLING SUBJECTS!

AND, HE SAYS HE CAN TRANSFER 'EM TO SOMEBODY ELSE!

THEN HIS SILENT DECISION MADE, THE YOUTH STEPS FORWARD...

NOW THAT THEY ARE IMMOBILIZED, I SHALL MAKE A PANTOGRAPHIC TRACING OF EACH OF THEM... AND THIS ADD THEIR POWERS TO MY OWN!

BUT... WAIT! WHO DARES APPROACH THIS SUPER-ADAPTOD?

AS THESE INHABITS OUGHTA CLUB YA IN. I'M NOT EXACTLY MR. AVERAGE CITIZEN MYSELF, SO IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN TURNING ME INTO AN ADAPTOD...

DONE! I CAN SENSE THAT YOU ARE ONE LIKE MYSELF... ONE BORN TO RULE OVER LESSER, CREATURES!

I DARE! CAL RANKIN'S THE NAME... BUT, YOU CAN CALL ME THE MIMIC!

FUNNY... I'VE BEEN NEAR THIS CREEP LONG ENOUGH TO MIMIC HIS POWERS... BUT NOTHING'S HAPPENED! IT MUST BE BECAUSE THEY'RE ARTIFICIAL ABILITIES!

YOU KNOW IT, DAD...

IVE HAD TWTH HOMO SAPIENS AND HOMO SUPERIOR ALIKE! THE FIRST TIME I BECAME THE MIMIC I HAD AN IDEA ABOUT TAKIN' OVER THE WORLD... AND NOW I KNOW WHAT A SAP I WAS TO GIVE IT UP!

TOO WEAK... TO DO MORE THAN RAISE MY HEAD SLIGHTLY!

BUT, I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING! IN HIS BITTERNESS TOWARDS THE X-MEN AND HUMANITY CAL PLANS TO JOIN FORCES WITH THE ADAPTOD! I MUST...

IT'S NO USE! CAN'T EVEN... SPEAK...

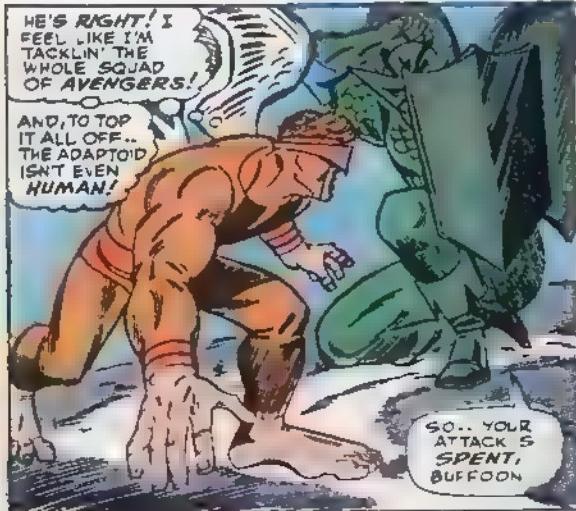
NOW TO BEGIN! THE PROCESS UTILIZES SPECIAL CELLECTRIC RAYS, WHICH WILL CHANGE YOUR BODY CELLS AND NERVE ENDINGS INTO SOLID STATE COMPONENTS, THEREBY...

SAVE THE EGGSHEAD EXPLANATIONS FOR POPULAR MECHANICS, BIG MAN!

VERY WELL, MORTAL...

IF YOU'RE GONNA TURN ME INTO YOUR NUMBER TWO ADAPTOD, THEN GET WITH IT, ALREADY!





CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

THEN, TO THE HAUGHTY HUMANOID'S UTTER ASTONISHMENT...

I MAY NOT HAVE THE STRENGTH OF GOLIATH... BUT WOULDJA BELIEVE THE AGILITY OF THE BEAST?

AND BY THE WAY... THANKS FOR YAKKIN' AWAY TILL I WAS ABLE TO SEE AGAIN!

BAN! YOU ARE NOT WORTH THE PRECIOUS TIME AN' CH YOU ARE COSTING ME!

FFM FISSH!

I SHALL DESTROY YOUR FELLOW HUMANS... AND THEN ATTACK YOU, AREA AT MY LEISURE!

UH OH! CAN T LET HIM KILL THE X-MEN!

GOTTA TRY SOMETHING... ANYTHING!

IF I CAN ONLY LURE HIM INTO THE SACK... WHILE THE OTHERS RECOVER FROM THAT PARALYSIS GAS!

SUIT YOURSELF, CHARLIE BUT, AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, YOU'RE COPPIN' OUT!

THAT TERM... SOMEHOW, I SENSE A REEKS OF DERISION!

NO ONE MAY LAUGH AT THE SUPER ADAPTOD.. AND LIVE!

THOON!

THAT WALKIN' POWERHOUSE WAS WRONG! HE DOES HAVE AN EMOTION... THAT OF PRIDE!

BUT GOTTA PUT SOME DISTANCE BETWEEN US... OR I WON'T LIVE TO BRAG 'BOUT MY DISCOVERY!

YOU SEALED YOUR OWN FATE WHEN YOU TRIED TO ESCAPE BY MEANS OF FLIGHT, DOLT!

FOR I, TOO, POSSESS WINGS... ADAPTED FROM THE AVENGER FEMALE KNOWN AS THE WASP!

UHHHHH! HE'S FASTER THAN I THOUGHT!

AND I'M NOT ABOUT TO BE ABLE TO BREAK THAT GRIP ON HIS

YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF YOUR ROPE, FOOL!

NOW, YOU SHALL PAY THE PRICE OF YOUR DEFIDANCE!



BUT, THE NEXT INSTANT, AS THE ELECTRIC-CELL EYES OF THE INCREDIBLE SUPER-ADAPTOID BEGIN TO TRACE AN OUTLINE OF HIS SILENT-CAPTIVE... THE VERY ATMOSPHERE AROUND THEM SEEMS TO COME ALIVE WITH AN OVERWHELMING, ALMOST UNBEATABLE ENERGY, AS...

WHAT?? SOME SORT OF IRRESISTIBLE ELECTRICAL BACKLASH... ENGULFING ME... RENDERING ME NUMB...

IT WORKED! MY NUTTY HUNCH PAID OFF!

Since my own borrowed powers are artificial, I guessed he couldn't absorb them... any more than I could. N.M.C.HIS!

SO I USED A POWER I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN-- THE TELEPATHIC ABILITY OF PROFESSOR XAVIER-- TO PLANT A FATEFUL SUGGESTION IN THE ADAPTOID'S MIND!

IN SOME INCALCULABLE WAY THE MMIC IS IMMUNE TO MY PANTOGRAPHIC PROBING!

THEN, BEFORE THE JOLTING FEEDBACK CAN DESTROY THEM BOTH, THE MIGHTY CREATURE HURLS THE MMIC FROM HIM...

THERE! BY CASTING YOU AWAY AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, I MAY YET HOPE TO OVERCOME THESE NUMBING SHOCKS!

TOO WEAK... TO FLY? IF MY WINGS CAN'T SOMEHOW CUSHION MY FALL... I'M DONE FOR!

BUT, AT LEAST I DID THE BEST I COULD... AND... NOBODY CAN DO MORE THAN THAT!

MEANWHILE, WHAT OF THE MARVELOUS MUTANTS WHO HAD BEEN FELLED BY THEIR FOE'S SURPRISE ATTACK? AH... THERE THEY ARE NOW...

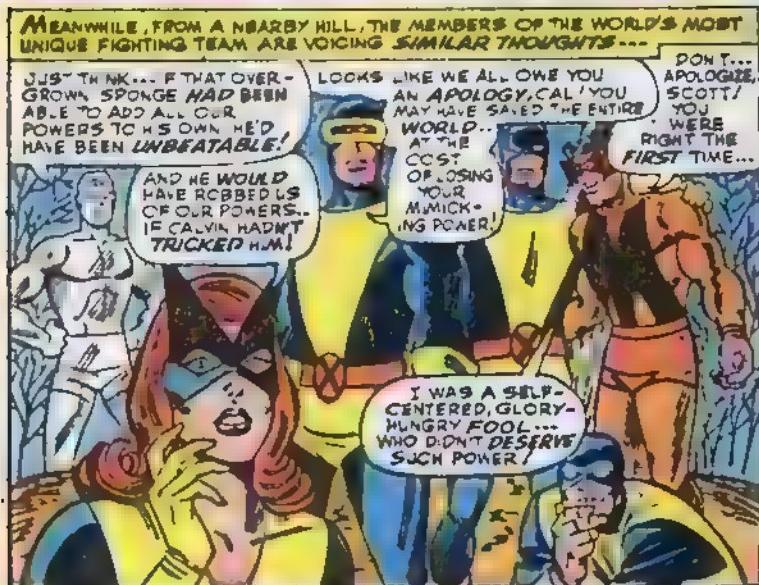
LOOK! THE ADAPTOID HAS TOSSED THE MMIC AWAY LIKE A LUMP OF CLAY!

BUT... HIS WINGS! WHY DOESN'T CALVIN USE HIS WINGS?

I'VE BETTER HE'S UNCONSCIOUS... OR AT LEAST TOO EXHAUSTED FROM THE FIGHT

WAIT! SOMETHING'S HAPPENING TO RANKIN'S WINGS! I CAN TELL EVEN FROM HERE...

THEY'RE... SHRINKING! AND IF THEY CAN'T HOLD HIM ALOFT, HE'LL PLUMMET TO HIS DOOM!



NOTE: OUR LETTERS SECTION APPEARS AFTER NEXT PAGE...



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NUTTY NOTES AND NONSENICAL NAME-DROPPING, FEATURING NATURALLY NON-ESSENTIAL
NEWS OF THE NATION'S TOP NON-ENTITIES!

ITEM #5 - WE SURELY can't just wait to say he has to have this Bill on his home page on the presses by to night! And this is the week our Marvel Super Heroes TV show goes on the air which means we will receive your letters of comment for a other few days! There fore we will print a summary of all your comments on our next 88 page Although we did manage to squeeze a few more we some of our letters Pages 1-30 they go to the printer a few days ago. A few by last night we'll have them all straightened out at least as straight as we can ever hope to get them. All the rest go on to our other items of earth shaking & Kon-

ITEM The big tax around the Bu men these days concerns Ma Valence. **MARIE SEVERIN**, who's just taken over the illustrating chores on the Doc Strange strip. The mouthy Miss Severin has been keeping us in stitches for years with the bawdy cartoons she whips up whenever no one's looking. But I never occurred to us to her that she could also draw a sensational serials strip—never that is, until Our Leader asked her to take a whack at Doc Strange because **WILD BILL EVERETT** wanted to devote himself full time to his beloved Sub Mariner. Well, the rest is history. This gal's gonna be one of the greatest! We're just as abut the greatest what—but why be precise? And to anticipate your quest on the auteur's yes—she's the sister of talented JOHN SEVERIN, who illustrated our Agent of Shield strip about a year ago. Anyway, we know you'll enjoy watching her achieve real stardom as the months go by—and take it from us—it couldn't happen to a nicer gal!

TEM Well award a pocket's red, printable
an transistor ho prize to any Tres Be ever
who can name a feature in any comic
magazine which has had more artists killing
it than the happy go lucky Hulk! We
name at least six stalwarts who've
locked the illustrating chores in just the
last few years—and knowing how biotchhhh
our memories are, we're sure that you can
name a lot more. However, it's just barely
possible that we've come up with the per-
fect choice for Green Skin in the person
of GIL (Sugar) KANE. We're not really sure
what makes his version of everybody's fa-
vorite monster so appealing, unless it could
be those gamma ray treatments we've
been forcing him to undergo! Anyway,
we're trying to chain him to the drawing
board, and if we succeed, it seems as
though of Torn Pants will have his own
steady artist at last!

TEM Unless we figure out what to do about it real fast, it looks like the FANTASTIC FOUR are gonna have the biggest cast of characters in superhero history! What with the six most famous inhabitants now being free—not counting their dog, Lockjaw—and the Silver Surfer still making the scene, as well as the Black Panther, Wyatt Wingfoot, the Wizard, Sandman, Doctor— and don't forget the original four members of the FF or the ever-delightful

And imagine if we had to feature the Yancy Street Gang regularly! No! There are dozens of 'em. Now do you see why poor Stan and Jack even have trouble remembering their own names sometimes?

ITEM: Who says this isn't the Marvel Age of Rapid Advancement? Did a notice that HASCALLY ROY THOMAS is now scripting four features each month? And I seen the only yesterday that SMITH & ALLEN was telling him what all those little buttons on the spinner were there for. Hard working Roy is busy putting words in the mouths of THE X-MEN, SUE FURY the AVENGERS and NM.F.D.P. But here's the payoff: Roy was originally supposed to fighten the work out for poor Smyley, but now that the Rat-a-tat One is hotly we hadda have another. In fact Shakespeare to take the press off him! So, get hear it for GARRY FRIDOLSEN when we stretched away from an entire month in a Midwest newspaper to help him cultivate and enlighten. Marvel salutes to all you keepers of the Flame. Pretty soon we'll haveta start issuing score cards so you know who's who and then maybe you'll be able to tell us!

ITEM We just hadda mention it on the Bull
Belt page - of why we're showing MMVs
of ourselfs b'fore we even Nerve like or not.
The first disk is a collage of 100+ stills
which I recently found in the albums I've
been standin' on. Yep, to those of you who have
already discussed it, we're blowin' our
own horn ab'out THE SH*T RIDER
latest addition to our discography. So here
goes. So those of you who fit for KID CO.
OZTAW, THE RAWHIDE KID, and
THE TWO GUN KID, can now add a
whole lot to that notorious list ofсада
and tages. We do planish the three newest
titles, stand above that we'll. It would
be kinda embarrassing if one of em be-
longed to Grand Echhi! Oh well - { }

ITEM Before we forget - we wanna wish you the best of everything for this holiday season. May you have good luck, good health and a good sense of humor - if you do, everything else will take care of itself! So stay happy, and be good to each other. Who knows - it could become something!



THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Marvelous Maps On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #60: The Inhumans are free! Dr. Doom and the FF fight it out to the most exciting finish you've ever read! Plus... the Silver Surfer! Only 12¢! How do we do it?

SPIDER MAN #46. A brand new superhero! But Spidey finds a new apartment a headache, from Aunt May, the return of Mache and enough surprises to knock you out of your tee.

AVENGERS 2) The Avengers polish off the ~~Ultron~~ only to run smack dab into the ever-greater menace of ~~Ultron~~ the Inevitable. And wait! You see Wanda and Pietro in action once more!

DAREDEVIL -29 The most unexpected development of all! DD introduces his twin brother to Karen and Foggy. And wait'll you see his battle with the Leap Frog! It's a sensation.

THOR #137 Never has Asgard faced a greater danger than—the Trolls! And never has Thor faced a more monstrous Troll the like while Sif is taken from him!

STRANGE TALES #154 The gloves are off! It's Fury vs. the savage strength of Hydra's deadly Dreadnaught! And what's Peter Parker's ~~hand~~ ^{hand} going to do when Uncle ~~Fang~~ ^{Fang} & the helpless Goliath

SUSPENSE #87 To Man faces one of the most macabre villains of all time, The Mole Man-as he is. She-Head has his most garrulous face yet. Meanwhile Captain America has the fight of his life—or is it his death?

ASTONISH ± 89: Never has the Sub Mariner scored a more dazzlingly different victory! But the Hulk is forced to battle the most powerful foe of all—the unearthly Stranger!

SGT. FURY #39 The Nazis have a new super weapon which may turn the tide of battle and it's up to Nick and his howkin' heroes to destroy it while Duo Manelli's cultist career hangs in the balance.

MARVEL COLLECTORS' ITEM CLASSICS
#2 The Fabulous Fantastic Four! The invincible Iron Man. The dynamic Dr. Strange. The incredible Hulk. Never before have so many fans received so much for so little!

FANTASY MASTERPIECES #7 The original Human Torch and Sub-Mariner—plus more Golden Age goodies with the one and only Captain America! And, just for good measure, three far-out Fantasy favorites!

MARVEL TALES #7 So day—Thor the Hammer, Torch and the wistful wonderful Wasp! All in one mag—the biggest bargain since the Oklahoma Land Rush!

**Let's meet 26 more
M.M.S. members!**

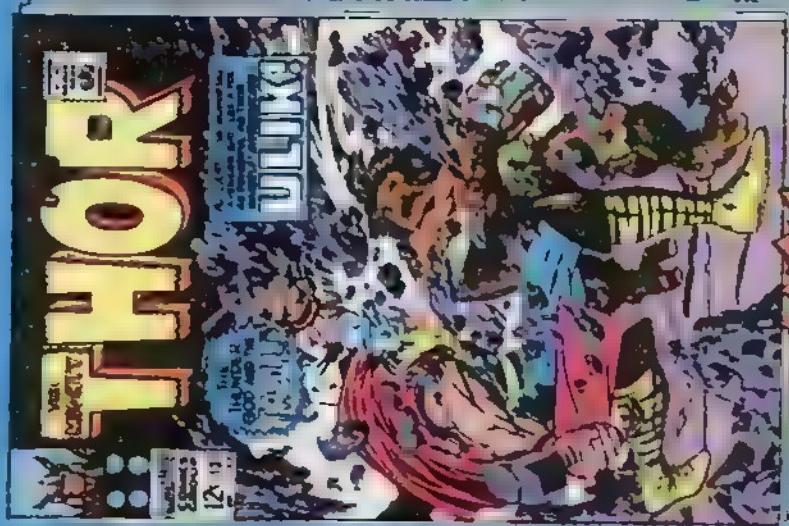
Van Veldner Englewood, Pa.	James Lawrence Clinton, Ohio	Jimmy Clark Harrisburg, Pa.	Jim Lee Ultra Mich.	David Bazer Bronx, N.Y.	Garry Ludwig Washington, Mass.
Jerry Fod Deer Park, N.Y.	Mike McShan Henderson, Tenn.	John Hightower Edmonton, Can.	Dave A. Maco Huntington, Ala.	Frank's Candyery Johnstown, Pa.	Larry Jardine Canton, Ill.
H. G. Marr Lubbock, Tex.	Edmund C. Hopkins Brentwood, N.Y.	Danette Magazine, Okla.	John Justus Dave Powell, Iowa	Doug Meyers Sioux City, Iowa	J.R. Lewis Columbus, Ga.
Roger Lamm Chesapeake, Va.	Mary Sverdrup Brownsville, N.Y.	John Seale Toronto, Ont.	Clyde W. Ramey Knoxville, Tenn.	Fred McRork Brooklyn, N.Y.	Doug Barker Saginaw, Mich.

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Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

Congrats on finally getting the X-MEN series moving again! It had been at a standstill for a while, with the marvelous mutants wasting their crime-smashing talents on the likes of the Maggia and the Locust. For a while, it didn't look as if Kukulcan was going to be much better — but the second part more than made up for the lack of action in the first half. The several fight pages were the best Werner has done since he stopped working over King Kirby's luscious layouts — I hope they're a forecast of even greater things to come! And the stories are getting better, too! Having the Angel blasted by Cyclo's optic beams was one of the best touches in the 27 issues of this fabulous mag. I'm not too worried about his future status, though, because I'm sure you plan to have him recover. Only one request — make the Mimic a full-fledged member of the X-Men when he returns — he's as interesting as all the rest of that kookie crew put together! Yours till the Angel flies back to Capistrano.

Robert Krone, 140 E. 40th St.
New York, N.Y.

Okay, tiger — we'll consider your comments, savor your suggestions, and mull over your musings! (Kind'a chokes you up, eh?) Glad you liked Wondrous Werner's admirable action scenes, and Rascally Roy's sagacious scripts. And, if you're wondering why we're cutting this answer short, next time maybe you'll mention Left-out Leo's eye-straining editing! Nyahh!



Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

I'm a college freshman this year and have been a fan of yours for the past five years. I'm still crazy about your super-hero mags. Because of this, I cannot stand quietly by and watch you wreck a good magazine. What do you think you're doing by taking Jean out of Professor Xavier's school? I appreciate a long, drawn-out, secret romance as much as the next person, but this one between Jean and Scott is getting ridiculous! Either break them up or let them get together, one or the other. (I'd prefer the second alternative myself.) Cut the continued stories to some

extent, also. And shorten them to two or three issues at the most. I accidentally missed an X-MEN issue because we were moving from the Canal Zone to the States, and I was somewhat at a loss as to what was going on. These are my complaints. Please think them over seriously, because I'm sure that hundreds of other Marvelites are thinking the same thing. Otherwise, I admit you people are great, if slightly confused at times. Brand Echh can't even hold a candle to you. I've stuck with you for five years, so I'm sure you won't be surprised when I tell you I'm intending to stick with you until the Watcher turns in his peeping-tom permit.

Nancy Mason, Qtrs. B., USNAD
Crane, Ind.

Only till then? Gosh, Nan — if there's one thing we can't stand, it's a fickle friend! However, to prove our magnanimity, we still love ya — and don't worry about Jean — we've a sneaking suspicion that Marveldom hasn't even begun to see the last of that chick!

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

Awwright! Enough is enough! It used to be that I liked the X-MEN better than any of your titles. They were mutants, feared, not trusted, always on the side of humanity, fighting evil mutants. So what happens? You turn these evild-mutant fighters into crummy super-villain combatters. You've turned an instant hit into a flop! In X-MEN you have great story potential and characters. So bring back evil mutants — singly or in a group — in the sensational tradition of the Brotherhood of Evil Mutants. Their purpose is supposed to be fighting mutants such as these. Leave the super-villains that aren't mutants to your other costumed do-gooders. C'mon, give it some thought!

Ronald Ford, 1110 Redwood St.
Oxnard, Calif. 93030

We have thought about it, Ron — we here! But, don'tcha remember what happened months ago? We received hundreds of letters a week telling us to unload Magneto — telling us to have our youthful yahoos fight menaces other than big, bad mutants! Personally, we really dug Magnettie, and our whole basic concept of the X-MEN was to have nice mutants fighting naughty mutants — but the vociferous voices of Marveldom dictated otherwise! And now — here you come confusing us again! So, we'll fall back on our usual tried-and-true solution — we'll wait to see what our other unexcelled x-perts have to say — and we'll letcha know on these pages in a later iss. Okay?

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

I was but an empty shell of what was once a noble being, and I had lost the will to exist . . . until I discovered your masterpieces of comic book literature. Seriously now, shame on Professor X and his mutation-finding machine for not locating a very obvious mutation. Recently I bought an old X-MEN issue (#10 to be exact) which introduces Ka-Zar and his faithful companion, Zabu. No, Ka-Zar isn't the mutation, it's Zabu. In this issue he has a stump-tail like any respectable sabre-toothed tiger should

have. When he next appears in DAREDEVIL #12 and #13, guess what? He has a long and flowing tail! What gives? Since no ordinary mammal can do this, he must therefore be a mutation. By the way, what ever happened to him? Well, that's about it for now — keep up the good work!

Andru Raskin, 893 Schenck Ave.
Brooklyn 7, N. Y.

Yeeesh! Is our collective face red! You've got us dead to rights, Andru! What happened was — after Zabu's initial appearance, we felt he'd look more dramatic, and more menacing with a long, flowing tail. Since he didn't appear again until many months later, we thought no one would notice. And, we almost got away with it until a sharp-eyed character like you nailed us! If anything calls for a deluxe no-prize, that does! So, clear off a non-conspicuous spot on your no-mantle-piece, and your specially designed, decorator approved no-prize will reach you before you know it! Congratulations, fortunate one — but promise you won't let it go to your head!

Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

In one of your past issues, someone asked if the Angel molted. Well, I don't know about molting, but he sure has changed his spots. The ending of X-MEN #26 was one of the most nettling in recent months. The Angel, once a mature member of the team, has irresponsibly thrown away his mantle and become a vindictive troublemaker. (Well, after all, he's making trouble for Cyclops, Marvel Girl, and himself, to say nothing of causing dissension within the group.) The Angel used to be my favorite X-man, but if this goes on, I may go back to the Beast. And he's got a big enough fan club as it is! The only good thing about all this is that now Scott will have to tell Jean. I've been getting pretty tired of all this mutual unrequited love business. Even Reed and Sue got married eventually. Even Spider-Man has plans. So, Stan, Roy, Werner, and Sam, get with it. We want a married X-Man, hear?!

D. Potter, 644 Mosswold Ave.
Orange, N. J.

Never mind about that! What we wanna know is, are you sure Spidey has plans? We didn't hear a thing about it! Why is the author always the last to know? How'd you find out, D.P.? C'mon, clue us in — please! After all, we've gotta write the blamed things! Gosh, if not for our capricious correspondents occasionally letting things drop, we'd never know what's going on around here! (In fact, wouldja believe most of the gang in the Bullpen still haven't even met Irving Forbush?) Oh well, if anything really made sense around here, then it wouldn't be Marvel!



Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

For starters, I think the X-Men are tops, and I'm only sorry I didn't start reading them sooner. I started reading issue #14 and liked it so well that I decided to make a collection of them. But I do have a question. In one of your earlier issues, I read that Professor Xavier lost the use of his legs due to a childhood accident. But in a later issue Lucifer dropped a huge stone slab on him. Now, which is the correct answer?

Roger Racy, 918 Nita Ct.
Chula Vista, Cal. 92011

You've gotta be kiddin', Rog! Everybody knows the answer to that one! For example, Stan says — Hey, Stan! Come back here! Well, he had some editing to

do. But, we'll just ask Roy, and he'll — Roy? We could'a sworn he was here a minute ago! Anyway, Werner will tell us, and then — huh? How did he sneak out? Artie, do you remember how — oh, you don't eh? Sam? What about Jolly Solly? Fabulous Flo? Merry Marty? Excuse us a minute, Rog — we just remembered where we can find the answer! — Okay, we've got it. The Prof lost the use of his legs due to Lucifer's dropping that slab on him — when they were young adults. What's that? Where did we get the answer from? Simple — we called Brand Echh! You know how carefully they study our mags!



Dear Stan, Roy, and Werner,

I've read almost every issue of X-MEN, and issue #26 was the best of all the Marvel mags. I think you should let Marvel Girl come back to the X-Men and Cyclops should marry her. But Warren comes between them. I feel you should let Cyke get rid of his deadly eyes. But Cyke wouldn't want it that way; he would rather stay with the X-Men and fight the evil villains that endanger the world. So keep those presses running! 'Nuff said!

Donnie Thomas, 1415 Farley St.
Houston, Tex.

Aww, come on, Donnie — we've got enough to do, what with writing the stories, and drawing them, as well as doing the lettering and the coloring — surely you don't expect us to run the presses, too! However, we'll be glad to convey your sentiments to the stalwarts who man our mammoth printing presses, and we're sure they'll comply to the best of their ink-stained abilities! Now, about Cyke — if he did get rid of his eye power, as you so callously suggest, we'd have to dream up a different name for him — and we've already used up our entire list of appellations! So, obviously we can't oblige! Anyway, Don — we enjoyed hearing from you, and forgive us for the put-on, huh?

NEXT ISH: Mightier than Magneto — bolder than the Banshee — that's the weirdly wondrous Warlock, the X-Men's phantasmagorical foe in our next astonishing ish! We don't wanna spoil your enjoyment by telling you too much about it in advance, except to say that X-MEN #30 features some of the most frankly far-out fantasy footage ever to appear in a comic mag! It's an offbeat Marvel classic — so be here early! You know we'd never start without you — and we can't keep all of Marveldom waiting! 'Nuff said!

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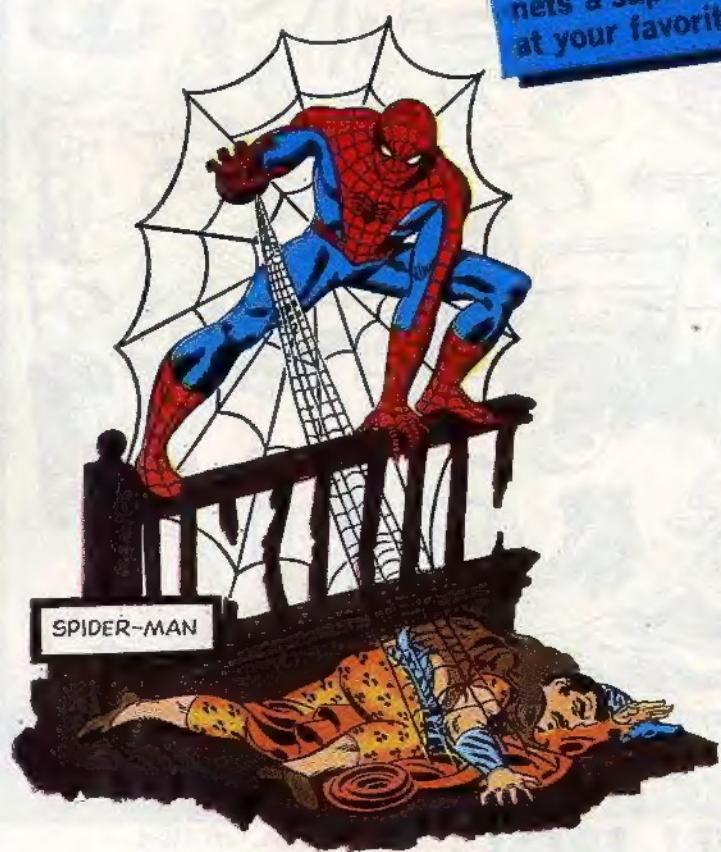
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